



The City Newsletter

December 2011

Happy
Holidays!



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OFFICER DENNIS CLARK AWARDED MEDAL OF VALOR

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City Council

Council meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 5:30 pm at Council Chambers, located at 100 East Ave A, Jerome, ID 83338

Council Meets:

- December 6th
- December 20th

For a copy of the most recent agenda, visit our website or email: sfraser@ci.jerome.id.us

During an awards ceremony held on November 12, 2011,

Officer Dennis Clark was awarded the Medal of Valor by the Jerome Police Department. The award was presented by Mayor John Shine at the Jerome Police Department's first awards banquet. The Medal of Valor is the Jerome Police Department's highest honor and is awarded for an act of outstanding bravery or heroism by which the individual has demonstrated a great degree of selflessness, personal courage and devotion to duty beyond the normal demands of police service. To be awarded the Medal of Valor an officer must have performed an act displaying extreme courage while consciously facing the risk of great bodily harm or death.

Officer Clark was awarded the Medal of Valor for his actions on February 7, 2011. On that date, Officer Clark attempted to stop a suspect for a violation which resulted in a high speed pursuit. At one point during the pursuit, the suspect stopped and fired a shotgun blast at Officer Clark which resulted in Clark being struck in the left eye by a shotgun pellet. Knowing that the suspect posed a deadly threat to fellow officers and innocent bystanders, Officer Clark continued the pursuit despite the fact he was bleeding and becoming light headed. Not knowing how long he could continue the pursuit and fearing for the safety of others if the suspect remained at large, Officer Clark made the decision to ram the suspect vehicle and bring the pursuit to an end. This action allowed back



Mayor John Shine Presents Officer Dennis Clark the Medal of Valor. Chief Dan Hall stands to the left.

up officers who were close at hand to be able to take the suspect into custody without further injury to officers or innocent bystanders. Following the event, Officer Clark went through a long and painful physical recovery and lost sight in his left eye. During this incident, Officer Clark demonstrated outstanding personal courage and heroism in the face of great danger. In addition to the Medal of Valor, Officer Clark was also awarded the Purple Heart and the Combat Action Medal.

Leaf Pickup Day: December 10

On Saturday, December 10, PSI will pickup all bagged leaves throughout Jerome. All bagged leaves that are placed in the same location as trash containers will be picked up. Limbs or branches will not be picked up. Leaves only.

For questions, call
PSI 733-4441

New Trash Removal Information

From December 1st to March 16th, all trash will be curb-side pickup only in preparation for snowy streets. *There will be no alley pickup for trash during this time.* Beginning December 1st, all alley carts must be placed on the curb for pickup.

For questions, call
PSI 733-4441

CLASSICS BOOK CLUB AT THE LIBRARY

Do you enjoy reading classic literature? The Classics Book Club welcomes new members. Group members read the classics and get together once a month to discuss. This group originated at the Library and has been meeting in private home in recent months. For the December meeting, they will return to the Library.

The Classics Book Club will meet at Jerome Public Library on Wednesday, December 7, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served. The public is welcome. Book selection for the December meeting is Hans Brinker, or the Silver Skates, by Mary Mapes Dodge. This classic story of the poor but virtuous Dutch boy and his quest to win the silver skates was first published in 1865.

For more information, call 324-5427 or
emailpmetcalf@ci.jerome.id.us.



QUESTIONS? COMMENTS?

EMAIL ENews@ci.jerome.id.us OR CALL 208-324-8189

WWW.CI.JEROME.ID.US

THE IMPORTANCE OF BACKFLOW PREVENTION

Summer has ended and with it the watering season. The irrigation water is no longer flowing in the Northside Canal, sprinklers systems have been prepared for winter, and our water quality concerns are over with. . . right? Wrong. The Water Operators for the City of Jerome are constantly concerned about the potential contamination from a backflow incident.

Backflow incidents occur daily in the United States and although these incidents typically only affect a single household, there are millions of opportunities to create cross connection contaminations, which can result in significant backflow incidents. The possibility of an incident increases when there are piping mistakes, unlicensed contractors, incorrect plumbing, unregulated manufacturers, and careless connections to irrigation systems and retention ponds. While certain cross-connections will not result in illnesses from consuming contaminated drinking water, other cross connections are likely to cause people to get sick.

As classified by the American Backflow Prevention Association on cross-connections and appropriate backflow protection, potential backflow hazards can range from a relatively low risk with no health implications to a high risk with serious health consequences. In the last three years, the following events have occurred in municipal water systems due to a cross-connection:

- 2009-In Idaho, an improperly installed Backflow Prevention Assembly (BPA) at a home resulted in untreated irrigation water contaminating a small portion of the water system with E. coli. The area affected included 120 homes. (source: KBOI News)
- 2009-In Utah, four cases of giardiasis were apparently caused by a cross-connection. County health officials said a resident making an illegal cross-connection of secondary water with the city's drinking water system is likely the cause behind four clustered



confirmed cases of giardiasis in the city. (source: Standard Net Live)

- 2009-In Kansas, over 24 people were sickened from a soda-machine carbonator backflow incident. Carbonated water was coming into contact with copper lines, causing copper-related illnesses when customers drank the soda. (source: KMBC-TV)

PROBLEM-Cross connections have been responsible for contaminating drinking water systems throughout the world. In order to effectively safeguard against such incidents, cross connection control is an on-going and continual requirement to ensure appropriate backflow preventers are installed. Water and piping systems are often being installed, altered, or extended introducing the potential for new cross connections.

SOLUTION-To safeguard against failure of backflow preventers from lack of maintenance and plumbing system changes over time, the City of Jerome's cross connection control program requires annual testing and reporting of backflow preventers by the owner of the plumbing water system.

A cross connection incident may not occur until the right circumstance (back siphonage or back pressure) occurs resulting in backflow of a chemical or a pathogen into the drinking water in a residence, business or separate water service from the municipal water distribution system. The appropriate backflow prevention device must be installed for the nature of the specific hazard on the premise. Those locations requiring testable backflow preventers must be tested and reported on a regular (annual) basis to ensure functionality.

If you have any questions concerning cross-connection or backflow devices, please call Water Works at 324-7122 and we will be happy to assist you. Also please be watching for other articles in this newsletter as we take you step by step through the process that will help assure your backflow preventer is operating properly.

NEW HOURS AT THE LIBRARY

The Jerome Public Library is happy to announce a change in the library hours for Saturday, expanding to a full day. Thank you to those of you who responded to our recent survey regarding the library hours. Effective December 3, 2011 the new Saturday hours will be 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Here is a list of our regular and holiday hours:

REGULAR LIBRARY HOURS ARE:

- Monday 9:00 am to 7:00 pm
- Tuesdays 9:00 am to 7:00 pm
- Wednesdays 9:00 am to 7:00 pm
- Thursdays 9:00 am to 7:00 pm
- Fridays 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
- Saturdays 10:00 am to 5:00 pm
- Sundays Closed

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER:

- Closed Saturday, Dec. 24, 2011
- Closed Monday, Dec. 26, 2011
- Closed Saturday, Dec. 31, 2011
- Closed Monday, Jan. 2, 2012

HISTORICAL SOCIETY WILL HOLD ANNUAL CHRISTMAS POTLUCK

Jerome County Historical Society will hold its annual Christmas Potluck December 8, 2011, at 6 p.m. at the Jerome Public Library. Be thinking about what scrumptious food you will bring to the potluck. Check with Peg at the museum, 324-5641, to see what is needed for salad, vegetables, and dessert. JCHS will provide the turkey and ham. Also bring your own plates and silverware. Jim Stockberger will provide entertainment. There is no admittance fee.

PREVENTING AND AVOIDING WINTER FIRES

Emmitsburg, Md., November 10, 2011 – As we move closer to winter and home fire deaths begin to increase, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) remind everyone that fire safety and prevention are especially important in the coming months. Because home fires are

The NFPA and USFA recommend following these safety tips to prevent winter home fires:

- Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period, turn off the stove.
- Space heaters need space; keep

- Avoid using lighted candles. If you must use candles, place them in sturdy candleholders that won't burn.

- If you smoke, use only fire-safe cigarettes and smoke outside.

“Winter fires are preventable,” Gaines emphasized. “Everyone should find out what they need to know to prevent a trag-



more prevalent in winter than in any other season, NFPA and USFA are once again jointly sponsoring a special initiative – Put a Freeze on Winter Fires – to help raise public awareness about winter fires.

“These fires are a painful reminder of what we see every year – the temperatures drop and fires increase,” said NFPA President Jim Shannon. According to NFPA statistics, space heaters account for about one third of home heating fires and approximately 80 percent of the home heating fire deaths.

The USFA’s Winter Residential Building Fires (PDF, 1 MB) report shows that each winter an estimated 108,400 residential building fires occur in the United States, resulting in 945 deaths, 3,825 injuries, and \$1.7 billion in property loss. Cooking is the leading cause of winter residential building fires at 36 percent followed by heating at 23 percent. Winter residential building fires occur mainly in the early evening hours, peaking from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

“The winter season brings the highest number of home fires, more than at any other time of year,” said USFA’s Deputy Fire Administrator Glenn Gaines. “Home fires increase in part due to cooking and heating. Winter storms can also interrupt electrical service and cause people to turn to alternative heating sources that contribute to the increased risk of fire during the winter months.”

anything that can burn at least three feet away from each heater.

- Check electrical cords often and replace cracked or damaged electrical or extension cords. Do not try to repair them.

- Never use your oven or stovetop to heat your home. They are not designed for this purpose

and can be a fire hazard. In addition, carbon monoxide (CO) gas might kill people and pets.

- Do not put your live Christmas tree up too early or leave it up for longer than two weeks. Keep the tree stand filled with water at all times.

edy and have a safe winter season.”

For more information about the causes of winter fires, winter storm fire safety, holiday fire safety, and tips that will help prevent the incidence of fire in the home, visit the USFA website at www.usfa.fema.gov/winter and the NFPA website at www.nfpa.org/winter



LIBRARY SURVEY ON FUTURE PROGRAMS

What kinds of adult programs and services would you like to see offered at the library? We welcome your thoughts and suggestions in this survey. Please click the link below or paste the following address into your browser:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DH5LLYB>

Thanks,

Patty

Patricia Metcalf, Director of the Jerome Public Library



**Jerome
 Recreation
 District**

Upcoming Events for December:

New Class Starting December 1st:

CROSSFIT!

- CrossFit Classes from 5:30am-6:15am
- Tuesdays and Thursdays
- Instructor: Amy Worthington
- Monthly Fees: \$15 in district; \$25 out of district

Youth Basketball

- Registrations Oct 31-Dec 5
- Grades 1-6
- \$17 per in district player/\$27 per out of district player
- Games start January 14

Kindergarten Basketball Clinic

- \$15 in district and \$25 out of district
- Registration begins January 2
- Camp will be held Feb 14, 16, 21, and 23
- *Must be in kindergarten

New Year's Membership Special

- 3 months for the regular price of 2 months
- Purchase from Dec. 19- Jan. 15
- For use beginning January 2

Check our website for the latest information:
www.jeromerecreationdistrict.com

Questions? Call (208) 324-3389

Library Events in December

EVENTS FOR CHILDREN:

- Storytime every Friday at 10:00 am and 1:00 pm
- Library Movie Matinee every Friday at 3:00 pm
- Children's Gaming Day: December 13 @ 3:15 pm
- Ornaments with Santa!: December 23 @ 1 pm-3 pm (Santa will be here from 1-2).

EVENTS FOR TEENS:

- Teen Gaming: Every Thursday @ 3:30 pm
- Dungeons and Dragons: Every Friday @ 2:30 pm
- YAC Meeting: December 6 @ 3:30 pm
- Teen Movie Day: December 7 @ 3:30 pm
- Hot Cocoa & Craft Day: December 21 @ 3:30 pm



EVENTS FOR ADULTS

- Classics Book Club, Hans Brinker, or the Silver Skates, by Mary Mapes Dodge: December 7 @ 7 pm

EVENTS FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN

- Right on the Money, Talking Dollars and Sense with Parents and Kids: December 10 @ 1 pm - 4:30 pm (register by December 7)

Contact the Jerome Public Library at 324-5427 or email jerpl@ci.jerome.id.us

Jerome Historical Society to Host Annual Christmas Potluck

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324-5641, to see what is needed for salad, vegetables, and dessert. JCHS will provide the turkey and ham. Also bring your own plates and silverware. Jim Stockberger will provide entertainment. There is no admittance fee.

DECEMBER ISSUE STAFF WRITERS



John Boyd is the Water Works Director and has been with the City of Jerome for over 14 years. He wrote on backflow prevention for this issue.

Patty Metcalf is the Director of the Jerome Public Library. where she has worked for over a year. She reported on the library for this issue.



Chief Dan Hall has worked for the Police Department for almost 8 years. He reported on Officer Clark receiving the Medal of Valor.



Chief Mike Hatfield has worked for the Fire Department for over two years. He submitted the article on winter fire prevention.

Micah Austin, Community Development Director, edits and compiles the monthly e-Newsletter